THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A finger for receiving a harvester reel pickup tine finger comprising:

an elongate hollow finger having [[a]] an elongate cavity therein opening to at least one end of said hollow finger, said cavity being curved in the direction of its elongation and extending over at least a portion of the length of said hollow finger, said cavity being constructed and arranged to receive at least a portion of the harvester reel pickup tine finger therein; and

at least one fastener adjacent said one end of said hollow-finger for fastening said hollow finger over the portion of the pickup tine finger when said portion is in said cavity.

2. (Original) The finger of claim 1, wherein said hollow finger is curved.

3. (Original) The finger of claim 1, wherein said hollow finger is smaller in cross section opposite said one end.

4. (Previously Presented) The finger of claim 1, wherein the shape of said elongate hollow finger is a substantial replicate of the harvester reel pickup tine finger.

5. (Previously Presented) The finger of claim 1, wherein said cavity of said hollow finger is constructed and arranged to receive a remaining broken portion of a broken pickup tine finger to repair the broken finger.

6. (Original) The finger of claim 1, wherein said fastener fastens said one end of said hollow finger to the pickup tine.

7. (Original) The finger of claim 1, wherein said fastener is constructed and arranged to frictionally engage the pickup tine to fasten said one end of said hollow finger to the pickup tine.

8. (Original) The finger of claim 1, wherein said fastener comprises a split ring.

9. (Original) The finger of claim 8, wherein said fastener comprises a pair of spaced split rings.

10. (Previously Presented) The finger of claim 1, wherein said cavity of said hollow finger is constructed and arranged to receive a remaining broken portion of a broken pickup tine finger to repair the broken finger; and said fastener comprises a pair of spaced split rings which are constructed and arranged to frictionally engage the pickup tine to fasten said one end of said hollow finger to the pickup tine.

11. (Currently Amended) A harvester reel pickup tine comprising:

a clamp for clamping the pickup tine to a support shaft of a harvester reel;

a first elongate finger extending from adjacent said clamp;

a second elongate hollow finger having [[a]] an elongate cavity therein opening to at least one end of said second hollow finger, said cavity being curved in the direction of its elongation and extending over at least a portion of the length of

said second finger, said cavity being constructed and arranged to receive at least a portion of said first finger therein; and

at least one fastener adjacent said one end for fastening said second hollow finger over said portion of said first finger when said portion is in said cavity.

12. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said second hollow finger is curved.

13. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said second hollow finger is smaller in cross section opposite said one end.

14. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein the shape of said second elongate hollow finger is a substantial replicate of said first finger of the harvester reel pickup tine.

15. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said cavity of said second hollow finger is constructed and arranged to receive a remaining broken portion of a broken first finger to repair the broken finger.

16. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said fastener fastens said one end of said hollow finger to the pickup tine.

17. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein the pickup tine includes at least one wing extending from said first finger at an angle thereto, and said fastener is constructed and

arranged to frictionally engage said wing to fasten said one end of said second hollow finger to said wing.

18. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said fastener comprises a split ring.

19. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 18, wherein said fastener comprises a pair of spaced split rings.

20. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein the pickup tine includes at least one wing extending from said first finger at an angle thereto, and said fastener snaps onto said wing to fasten said one end of said second hollow finger to said wing.

21. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said fastener includes at least one wing extending from said first finger at an angle thereto; said second hollow finger is curved; said cavity of second hollow finger is constructed and arranged to receive a remaining broken portion of a broken first finger to repair the broken finger; and said fastener comprises a pair of spaced split rings which are constructed and arranged to frictionally engage said wing to fasten said one end of said second hollow finger to said wing.

22. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, wherein said fastener includes at least one wing extending from said first finger at an angle thereto, and said clamp, first elongate finger and wing are formed in integral one-piece relationship.

23. (Original) The pickup tine of claim 11, including in combination a harvester reel and a support shaft on said reel to which the clamp is clamped.

24. (Previously Presented) A method of repairing a broken harvester reel pickup tine finger, comprising:

positioning an elongate hollow finger having a cavity therein opening to at least one end of said hollow finger and extending over at least a portion of the length of the hollow finger so that at least a portion of a remaining portion of the broken finger extends into the cavity; and

fastening said elongate hollow finger over said remaining portion of the broken finger when said portion extends into the cavity.

25. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the elongate hollow finger is frictionally fastened to the pickup tine.

26. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the elongate hollow finger is fastened to a wing of the pickup tine.

27. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the elongate hollow finger is snapped onto the pickup tine.

28. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein substantially all of the remaining portion of the broken finger is positioned in the cavity.

29. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the repair is accomplished without removing the pickup tine from the harvester reel.

30. (Original) The method of claim 24, wherein the elongate hollow finger is frictionally fastened to the pickup tine; substantially all of the remaining portion of the broken finger is positioned in the cavity; and the repair is accomplished without removing the pickup tine from the harvester reel.

31. (Previously Presented) The finger of claim 24, wherein the shape of said elongate hollow finger is a substantial replicate of the harvester reel pickup tine finger.